

Pain Is Gain

"What Doesn't Kill You Makes You Stronger", Part 3 of 7
Pastor Vince DiPaola

How Your Most Common Pain In Life Can Lead To Great Gain In Christ

I) IN OUR PAIN, GOD __ COMFORTS US IN CALAMITY__.

***The pain: Experiencing __DISCOMFORTING CIRCUMSTANCES__.**

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows."
(2 Corinthians 1:3-5, NIV)

***The gain: You can realize the __COMFORTING SUPPORT__ of God.**

***The main factor: Will you pass on __COMFORT TO OTHERS__?**

"Share each other's troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ."
(Galatians 6:2, NLT)

II) IN OUR PAIN, GOD _DELIVERS US THRU DIFFICULTY_.

***The pain: Eliminating __SELF-RELIANCE__.**

"I think you ought to know... about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and completely overwhelmed, and we thought we would never live through it. In fact, we expected to die. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us."
(2 Corinthians 1:8-10, NLT & NIV)

***The gain: You can rely on the __ALL-SUFFICIENT POWER__ of God.**

***The main factor: Will you rely on __GOD OVER YOURSELF__?**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and he will direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6, NLT)

III) IN OUR PAIN, GOD _RECONCILES OUR RELATIONSHIPS_.

***The pain: Enduring __STRAINED RELATIONSHIPS__.**

"We have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God..." And I hope that, as you have understood us in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as we will boast of you in the day of the Lord Jesus. Because I was confident of this, I planned to visit you first so that you may benefit twice...did I do it lightly? Or do I make my plans in a worldly manner so that in the same breath I say, "Yes, yes" and "No, no"? But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not "Yes" and "No."... For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ."
(2 Corinthians 1:12-18&20, NIV)

***The gain: You can witness the __RECONCILING WORK__ of God.**

***The main factor: Will you do __YOUR PART IN RESOLUTION__?**

"Bless those who persecute you... Live in harmony with one another... as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."
(Romans 12:14&16&18, NIV)

IV) IN OUR PAIN, GOD _FORTIFIES OUR FAITH_.

***The pain: Engaging your __TRUE FAITH__.**

"It is God who gives us, along with you, the ability to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned us, and he has identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the first installment of everything he will give us. I call God as my witness that it was in order to spare you that I did not return to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm."
(2 Corinthians 1:21-24, NIV)

***The gain: You can develop __SPIRITUAL STRENGTH__ from God.**

***The main factor: Will you stand __FIRM IN YOUR FAITH__?**

"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith— of greater worth than gold... may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."
(1 Peter 1:6-7, NIV)